



Little River Currents

MEGWAA EZHIWEBAAK

Good Words and Good Fellowship at the Gdoshkwaanagana Reservation Workshops

Several members of the Tribal Council, Ogema Lee Sprague and Tribal Staff attended the first of six Gdoshkwaanagana Reservation Workshops held in Watersmeet, Michigan and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ogema Lee Sprague and Tribal Council Speaker Steve Parsons presented information about the Tribe and Reservation History to Tribal members and their families during a day long workshop.

People attending the events were very interested in the information that was presented and took part by asking questions and providing input that will help Tribal Council and the Ogema make leadership decisions for the Tribe.

Topics of the workshop included Reservation history, terminology and documentation research. Members read letters from Ancestors sent to the U.S. government over 100 years ago and viewed pictures and maps that gave a good idea to the people so everyone can understand what the Little River Band of Ottawa Indian's Reservation really is. As Ogema Sprague stated to each group, "The more we are able to share our story and talk about it amongst our families, the stronger we will become."

Members also joined together to sign another letter that will be sent to the President of the United States and other U.S. government officials that expresses the desire of the entire Tribe to honor all the treaties that the US and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians have agreed to.

Many people who were at the workshop were learning this



Tribal Members at the Workshop held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

information out for the first time. In addition, many families had the opportunity to visit and some people even found new relatives that they hadn't known before.

Overall the Workshops have been a great success through sharing Tribal history and fellowship opportunities. Many good words were shared between the Ogema, Council members, Elders and Tribal Youth who've attended these workshops. Please try to attend the next meeting held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on May 22, 2004.

More photos and Workshop info on page 8

Tondu Coal Permit Unanimously Denied

The 425-megawatt coal-fired coal plant project proposed by Joe Tondu is a bust. The Manistee City Planning Commissioners voted 8-0, with one abstention, to reject Tondu's proposal to build the plant in Manistee.

Reading from the resolution that denies construction, Erin Kilpatrick, a planning commission consultant states, "The use is not reasonable, nor designed to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community." As the final outcome was rendered, hundreds of people gave a standing ovation as they heard the Commission's decision.

Joe Tondu has stated that he's reviewing the whole project and all his options, including reapplying or walking away and doing something else. He also said that a lawsuit is an option but not one that he was considering before thoroughly reviewing the Commission's decision. According to the Community development director, Jon Rose, the City Planning Commission has been prepared for a lawsuit from the beginning, due to the high-profile nature of the case.

Coal Plant Denied, continued page 3



Warrior Society Members Al Medacco and Joe Koon on the Capitol Steps in Lansing.

RaciNO Rally in Lansing

A large group of Tribal members and employees traveled to Lansing on April 28, 2004 to make their opinions known on the Agricultural Impact House Bills 4609-4612. Other Tribes and groups gathered around the steps of the State Capitol to listen to Tribal Leaders, Elders, Veterans and Michigan State Senators voice the NO RaciNO message.

Since then the House voted on the bill, which passed 20-19, the deciding vote being made by Manistee's own Senator Michelle A. McManus. Why McManus and the other 19 Senators who voted "yes" chose that vote is yet to be discovered; however the United Tribes of Michigan are gearing up to fight and stop the State of Michigan from breaking the gaming compact it made with Michigan Tribes.

More photos of the Rally are on page 15



Outlook from the Ogema

Boozhoo,

It was great welcoming everyone to the 2004 Spring Membership Meeting. I hope that you had a chance to visit with friends and family, meet new people and visit our beautiful facility that we are currently looking at expanding to accommodate our overnight guests.

At this time we face several issues that could reduce our revenues by up to thirty percent.

The first issue is the “Racino” bill also known as the Agricultural Enhancement Package: HB 4609-12. This bill passed the Michigan Senate and authorized up to nine casinos to be located within racing tracks across Michigan and fifteen Off Track Betting locations with electronic games of chance. We also face increased competition with other gaming facilities that are planning on expansion and other facilities that will be opening soon. Indian Gaming is under attack across the United States. In California, the Governor is asking for twenty-five percent of revenues from Tribal Casinos. In Minnesota there is a proposal to make slot machines illegal. In addition, the State of Michigan has filed a counter claim in U.S. Federal Court stating that the Tribes have no treaty rights pursuant to the 1836 Treaty.

These are issues that the Tribal Council and my Office take very seriously. We work hard with our staff to ensure that we protect our sovereign rights as a Nation and to pursue Tribal Government Gaming. I want to thank those of you who have responded to the recent letters from the Tribal Government asking you to write to Michigan’s elected officials to vote no on the Racino bills. I am also requesting that you make plans to attend the Reservation Restoration meetings that we will be holding. The more that we learn and understand about our Reservation and sovereignty rights the stronger our Nation will be. The survival and future of Tribal Government Gaming is critical. There are those that fight for the Tribe, and those who want to fight with the Tribe. I know where the Tribal Council and my office stand on these important issues. We have to protect the interests of our Tribal Casino against a myriad of threats now and in the future. There is no doubt that we must

protect the Sovereignty of our Nation and the restoration of our Reservation. Without our Sovereignty and our Reservation, providing for the welfare of our members with Gaming revenues would not be possible.

The purpose of Tribal Government Gaming is specific. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2710 [Sec. 11], states that net revenues from any Tribal gaming are not to used for purposes other than –

- To fund Tribal Government operations or programs;
- To provide for the General Welfare of the Indian Tribe and its members;
- To promote Tribal economic development;
- To donate to charitable organizations; or
- To help fund operations of local government agencies.

Per Capita Payments

Three fourths of Gaming Tribes devote all of their revenue to Tribal governmental services, economic and community development, to neighboring communities and to charitable purposes. They do not give out per capita payments. Only about one fourth of Tribes engaged in gaming distribute per capita payments to Tribal members.

The Secretary of Interior must approve any per capita payments as part of a “Revenue Allocation Plan”. Tribal government services, economic and community development, general tribal welfare, charitable donations and any requirements for aid to local governments must be provided for before a Tribe can file for a “Revenue Allocation Plan”. [Tribal Council has scheduled regular meetings to discuss Per Capita, once a decision is made, a copy of the Per Capita Plan will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior for approval].

With additional requests from our membership for services like Health, Education, Elders Assistance, Housing, Energy Assistance and General Welfare, the need of our Tribal Members has not been met. Many of you here today understand that there is a need to assist our Tribal members. That fact, along with the demands for a fifty percent per capita distribution from some members creates difficult challenges that we face as a Nation. Tribal

members receiving per capita payments will PAY FEDERAL INCOME TAX on these payments. This will hurt some Elders on fixed incomes, Medicaid or Medicare recipients and individuals who receive social security.

I know that we must plan carefully to ensure our continued support of our Elders with the assistance provided near the end of each year, this amount increases once you turn 70 years of age. We must also increase the amount of funding that the Federal Government is obligated to pay to assist Tribal members. Currently the Federal Government provides 38% (thirty-eight) of the actual costs of healthcare when they should be paying 100% (one hundred). The Health Department, Tribal Council and my Office are fully committed to generate these additional dollars from Indian Health Services. We must also continue to provide assistance to our children in school. I believe that you can measure a Nation by how they care for their Elders and Children today and for Seven Generations.

As Ogema, it’s my job to inform the membership what is important to all of us, not just what is popular. What I have said here is the best way I can let you know what we in the government are doing to address the per capita question and the needs of the membership. Tribal Council has been working hard on all of these issues; they have taken into account the per capita surveys that tribal members have returned. The issues are complex and require much consideration to ensure that the welfare of the entire membership is taken into account. While some feel free to criticize the deliberations as we strive to reach the goal of providing for the membership and realizing per capita distribution, I fully support the Tribal Council and the process to date. I will continue to support a fifty percent per capita distribution while protecting the welfare of our Tribe.

In closing I hope you’ll take note of the victory environmentally concerned people everywhere can share regarding the Northern Lights coal plant (see cover story). It is a great day when we can all work together toward the common goal of caring for our Grandmother Earth.

Lee

Coal Plant Denied

Continued from cover

Even though the plan hasn’t worked out for Tondu in Manistee, there still looms the possibility that the Michigan Public Power Agency, which backed Tondu’s project, will seek to build a coal-fired plant in Manistee. There’s also a possibility that Tondu could build in Mason County as the Ludington Daily News reports that Bill Kratz, Mason County economic development director, has talked with Tondu about building the proposed plant in Ludington.

However, with the efforts of several grass roots groups, LRBOI Tribal officials, and concerned citizens whose actions truly put the final nail in the Manistee coal-plant coffin, it may not be the best choice for Tondu to pursue building anything in this area.

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The Enrollment Department would like to let the members know that there are new Tribal Identification Cards. The new IDs can be obtained through the Enrollment Department by coming into our office to get your picture taken, or by calling and requesting one without a picture. The Enrollment Department office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed during our lunch hour which is from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. We can be contacted by calling the toll free number @ (888) 723-8288. We would like to remind the members that if they have an Address Change, or would like to change their Beneficiary form that they need to contact our office.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE

There will be a tennis clinic for all Native Americans June 18 and 19, Friday and Saturday from 9:00am to 12:00pm. The clinic will be for children 8 years old and up. Adults are also welcome to learn the basic strokes and scoring of tennis. Wear tennis shoes and bring a racquet if you have one. Racquets will be provided if needed. There is no charge for the clinic and it promises to be a lot of fun! The clinic will be at Sands Park tennis courts which are located behind the old Manistee High School at 8th Street and Robinson. It is sponsored by the Northern Michigan District of the United States Tennis Association. Harold Carton and Terry Parks of Manistee will be instructing. For more information call Bridget Cole at 1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-6717.

TRIBE ADOPTS NEW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDINANCE

TRIBAL COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED A NEW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDINANCE THAT BECAME EFFECTIVE APRIL 15, 2004.

THE NEW ORDINANCE WHICH REPLACES LANGUAGE IN THE LAW AND ORDER CODE PROHIBITING SIMILAR BEHAVIOR IS MORE COMPREHENSIVE AND PROVIDES LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE TRIBAL JUDGES WITH MORE TOOLS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY FAMILIES AND TO CHANGE THE BEHAVIOR OF OFFENDERS.

IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING FOR INCREASED SANCTIONS FOR REPEAT OFFENDERS, UP TO AND INCLUDING BANISHMENT, THE NEW ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR MANDATORY COUNSELING PROGRAMS FOR OFFENDERS AND SERVICES FOR VICTIMS INCLUDING PROCEDURES FOR TRIBAL ORDERS OF PROTECTION THAT CAN BE ENFORCED ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS IN INDIAN COUNTRY.

COPIES OF THE NEW ORDINANCE ARE AVAILABLE AT FAMILY SERVICES, TRIBAL COURT AND THE PROSECUTORS OFFICES DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.



NOTICE TO READERS: This issue of Little River Currents combines the months of May & June into one June issue in order to accommodate new publishing deadlines. Please send in your submission information by the first of the month, or thirty days in advance, to get into the next month's issue. The deadline for submitting to the July newspaper is June 1, 2004.

The Members Assistance Department is accepting applications for the Home Repair Program. This program assists in the repair of substandard home conditions. The Home Repair Program will assist in the repair of substandard conditions in electrical, roof, heating, plumbing systems and in some cases weatherization.

A complete application and supporting documentation must be submitted for eligibility determination for assistance.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Enrolled Member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- Tribal member is the homeowner and a permanent member of the household.
- Home is located in the continental United States.
- Household income does not exceed the income guidelines.
- Home meets the definition of substandard conditions.

Maximum amount of assistance: \$6000.00

To request an application please call our office at 231-723-8288 or toll free 888-723-8288 ext 6864

Talking About Finances

All too often an elderly loved one ends up in a financial crisis that his or her family/caregiver had no idea was happening. It is easier to communicate and avoid rather than fix things after they have gone sour. Talking about finances is often forgotten about until it's too late. Here are few tips to avoid these troubles and help with financial discussions.

- ❖ Start talking early and talk often.
- ❖ Remember you are trying to offer help and not take over.
- ❖ Respect how the loved one wants to handle his or her finances.
- ❖ Suggest ideas; be careful not to dictate.
- ❖ Inquire about different aspects of finances such as rent/mortgage, utilities, medical expenses, insurance etc.

There is a growing network of professionals who can assist you in managing care for an elderly loved one. Here a couple of website that can help you find information about available services www.aarp.org, www.eldercare.gov, or www.caremanager.org If you would like you can call the Family Service Department and ask for help, 1-888-382-8299 ext 6603 (Aldeanna Kelsey).

*Submitted by Family Service Department
Written By Julie Wolfe*

May Commodity News

Food Distribution Program: Would like to say good-by to Brandon Drake. Thank you for all of the good work you gave us, we will miss you, and good luck in Florida.

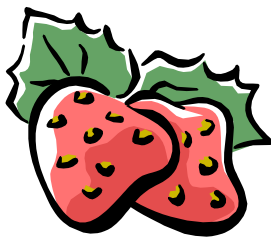
Sour Cream Potatoes

- 1 10-oz. can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 8-oz. container sour cream
- 1-1/2 cups shredded Cojack cheese
- 32-oz. pkg. frozen southern cubed hashed brown potatoes

Spray 4-6 quart slow cooker with cooking spray. Combine soup, sour cream and cheese in medium bowl and mix well. Pour half of potatoes into prepared crockpot. Top with half of sour cream mixture. Top with rest of potatoes, then remaining sour cream mixture. Spread evenly. Cover and cook on high for 3-1/2 to 4-1/2 hours. 12 (1/2 cup) servings

Strawberry Jell-O Pie

- 1 1/4 cups apple juice
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 Tbsp. Cornstarch
- 1 pkg. (4 serving size) Jell-o brand strawberry flavor gelatin
- 1 pint (2 cups) strawberries, halved
- 1 Honey Maid graham cracker pie crust (6 oz.)



MIX: apple juice, sugar and cornstarch in sauce pan; cook on medium heat 2 minutes or until thickened , stir constantly. Remove from heat, add gelatin; stir 2 minutes until complete dissolved.

PLACE: strawberries, cut side down, in crust.

POUR: gelatin mixture over strawberries; refrigerate 2 hours

13 Counties Served:

**Benzie
Mecosta
Lake
Leelanau
Manistee
Mason
Muskegon
Newaygo
Oceana
Ottawa
Wexford
Osceola
Grand Traverse**

To contact the
**Commodities
Department**

Please
Call:



**1-888-723-8288
1-231-398-6715
1-231-398-6716**

Three men were sitting together bragging about how they had set their new wives straight on their duties.

The first man had married a woman from Alabama, and bragged that he had told his wife she was going to do all the dishes and house cleaning that needed to be done at their house. He said that it took a couple of days, but on the third day he came home to a clean house and the dishes were all washed and put away.



The second man had married a woman from Missouri. He bragged that he had given his wife orders that she was to do all the cleaning, dishes, and the cooking. He told them that the first day he didn't see any results, but the next day it was better. By the third day, his house was clean, the dishes were done, and he had a huge dinner on the table.



The third man had married a Michigan gal. He boasted that he told her that her duties were to keep the house cleaned, dishes washed, lawn mowed, laundry washed, and hot meals on the table for every meal. He said the first day he didn't see anything, the second day he didn't see anything, but on the third day most of the swelling had gone down and he could see a little out of his left eye!



Fun at 2004 Basket Making Class

CURRENTS SUBMISSION COUPON

Please fill out the following coupon to cut out and mail in. Dedications sent in using this coupon and mailed to Little River Currents 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660 will be published in the next available newspaper issue.

Name _____ Tribal ID# _____

Daytime phone number _____

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| _____ Birthday/Belated Birthday | _____ Anniversary/Wedding |
| _____ Baby Birth Announcement | _____ School/College Achievement |
| _____ Other _____ | |

Write your dedication text out completely, for example: "Happy 60th Anniversary, Aunt Mary & Uncle Harry, April 1, 2004. From your family and friends." Dedications are published EXACTLY as printed in the box below:

(Office Use Only) Date Rec'd _____ By _____ Placed _____ Issue _____

CHS and EHAP NEWS

Is everyone getting prepared for summer? Picnics, parties, and lovely allergies! I'm sure by now that if you have allergies, you have been suffering with all of the pollen in your area; it is definitely that time of year. I have a few reminders and a couple of explanations for you.

First reminder is to call at least 48 hours prior to your regularly scheduled appointments. This does not include emergency visits. You have 72 hours to report an emergency. We cannot guarantee payment for an emergency until we receive the physician notes. The Managed Care committee then determines if it was a life or death situation. Elders have 30 days to call in an emergency.

Second, if you send us the bill/claim directly instead of the vendor (doctor, hospital, etc.), you need to make sure that it has the ICD-9 and CPT codes on it. If this is not on the bill/claim, we will have to send it back asking for more information. This takes extra time and slows down the payment process.

I would like to explain the suspension and reinstatement process to you a little bit. When it is time for your annual reassessment, you will be sent the paperwork to fill out. If we do not receive it back in a timely fashion, you will be given a second notice, and then a final notice. **IF** your file is suspended, you will receive a certified letter that will have the date of suspension. When you get the required paperwork and copies of all required documents to the CHS/EHAP office, you will be reinstated immediately. You will then be sent another letter that will include your reinstatement date.

I think I need to elaborate on referrals to an emergency room. If you are referred to an emergency room from the Tribal clinic or any other clinic or physician, you are still required to report that to the CHS/EHAP office within the 72 hour time frame (30 days for elders). **The clinic or any other office cannot call us.** They are not allowed to share that information. **This is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** Also, the life or death rule will apply. That means that we will need the physician/hospital notes for the Managed Care committee to make the final decision for payment.

I hope everyone who went to the Spring Membership meeting had a good time. It was great getting to meet those of

you that came to our table. Just wanted to give you all a few reminders, then I am going to do something new this month. I am going to let you get to know a member of the CHS/EHAP staff one at a time.

Okay, here goes. First, just to clarify the 48 hour pre-approval notice. You can call in your appointments as soon as you receive them, it just needs to be AT LEAST 48 hours in advance. Also if you call in your appointments that are more than 120 days in advance, we will have to make note of them because the computer system will not let us make purchase orders if they are more than 120 days. So please bear with us regarding this issue. Second, please remember to fill out and SIGN all your documentation for your applications and/or reassessments. This will save on time, stamps, and trees. Third, it is extremely important that you not leave your appointments on someone's voicemail. You have to speak to your worker. The only time you need to speak to another worker, is when your worker is out of the office or on another line. Lastly, everyone's cooperation with the coordination of care is coming along nicely. Re-member, in order for Contract and Extended Health to cover payments to outside sources (non-Indian), your care has to be coordinated through our Tribal Clinic or another Indian Health Services facility. This is a federal regulation in CFR 42 governing Contract Health Services. You have the option not to do this, but CHS/EHAP will not guarantee payment. As always, please call the office with any questions or concerns you may have, PLEASE DO NOT rely on the rumor mill. The toll free number is 1.888.382.8299 and local is 231.723.8299. Miigwech.

This month I am introducing Juanita Antoine. Juanita is the daughter of Charles and Charlene Antoine, Jr., and the granddaughter of Charles Antoine Sr. and Eleanor Pete. Juanita grew up in the great state of Wisconsin. She has 2 sisters and 3 children that still reside over there. Juanita moved over here to work for the Tribe in July of 2002. Juanita takes care of the alphabet A-E, so some of you may know her already. If you are ever in town, stop by the clinic and say hello!

*Respectfully submitted by
Gina Wright*

Casino Cough: Secondhand Smoke Is Real Cancer Risk, Casino Study Shows

A few hours in a casino may cost you more than your paycheck. According to a new study, the amount of secondhand cigarette smoke in a casino or any other smoke-filled room may present a substantial cancer risk to nonsmokers.

Researchers at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, found elevated levels of a cancer-causing agent, NNAL, in the urine of nonsmokers after they spent just four hours in a commercial casino. Researchers also found elevated levels of cotinine, a byproduct of nicotine, in the samples. Both NNAL and cotinine are specific to tobacco and were not found in the nonsmokers' urine before their casino visit. "This evidence could be dynamite," says Robert West, an epidemiologist at University College London. "It is one thing to know that one is breathing in carcinogens; psychologically it is another to know that one's own body has been contaminated by them."

The study, published today in *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention*, provides additional evidence to the long-held belief that secondhand smoke poses a health risk. The research is also expected to add fuel to the drive for anti-smoking regulations in public spaces.

Research Offers Real-World Evidence of Exposure

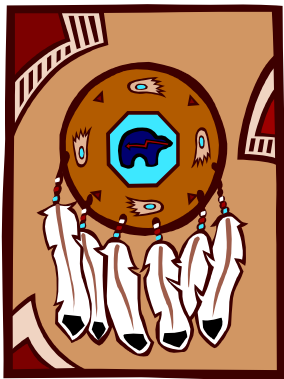
In the study, Kristin Anderson, epidemiologist at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health, analyzed urine samples of 18 volunteers before their visit to a casino in the upper Midwest. The volunteers, four men and 14 women, spent an average of 4.25 hours in the designated smoking area of the casino. Samples were also collected within 24 hours following the visit.

The samples taken after the casino visit showed a 112 percent average increase in NNAL. The average increase in the amount of cotinine following the casino visit was 456 percent.

Public health professionals note the study adds a real-world element to the evidence linking secondhand smoke to cancer. "The unique aspect of this research is that it simulates real-life exposure," says Andrew Hyland, epidemiologist with the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y.

http://abcnews.go.com/sections/Living/US/second_hand_smoke_031222-1.html
Dec. 22

By Marc Lallanilla
Contributed to Little River Currents by Gina Wright



The following is the philosophy of Charles Schultz, the creator of the "Peanuts" comic strip. You don't have to actually answer the questions, just read straight through and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winner for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
6. Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.

Easier?

The lesson:

The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards. The people who make a difference in your life are the ones who care.

Little Sisters

By Angela Carter

Little sisters are fun.
Little sisters are caring.
Little sisters can be a little daring.
Little sisters are pesty.
Little sisters are cool.
Little sisters follow you wherever you go.
Little sisters copy you from head to toe.
My little sister can be just like my mother
when she tells me what to do.
Little sisters come in all shapes
and sizes, and you should love
them for who they are.
I love my little sister.
I hope you love yours too!

This poem was written by Angela Carter and has been accepted for publication by the Anthology of Poetry. Congratulations we are proud of you!

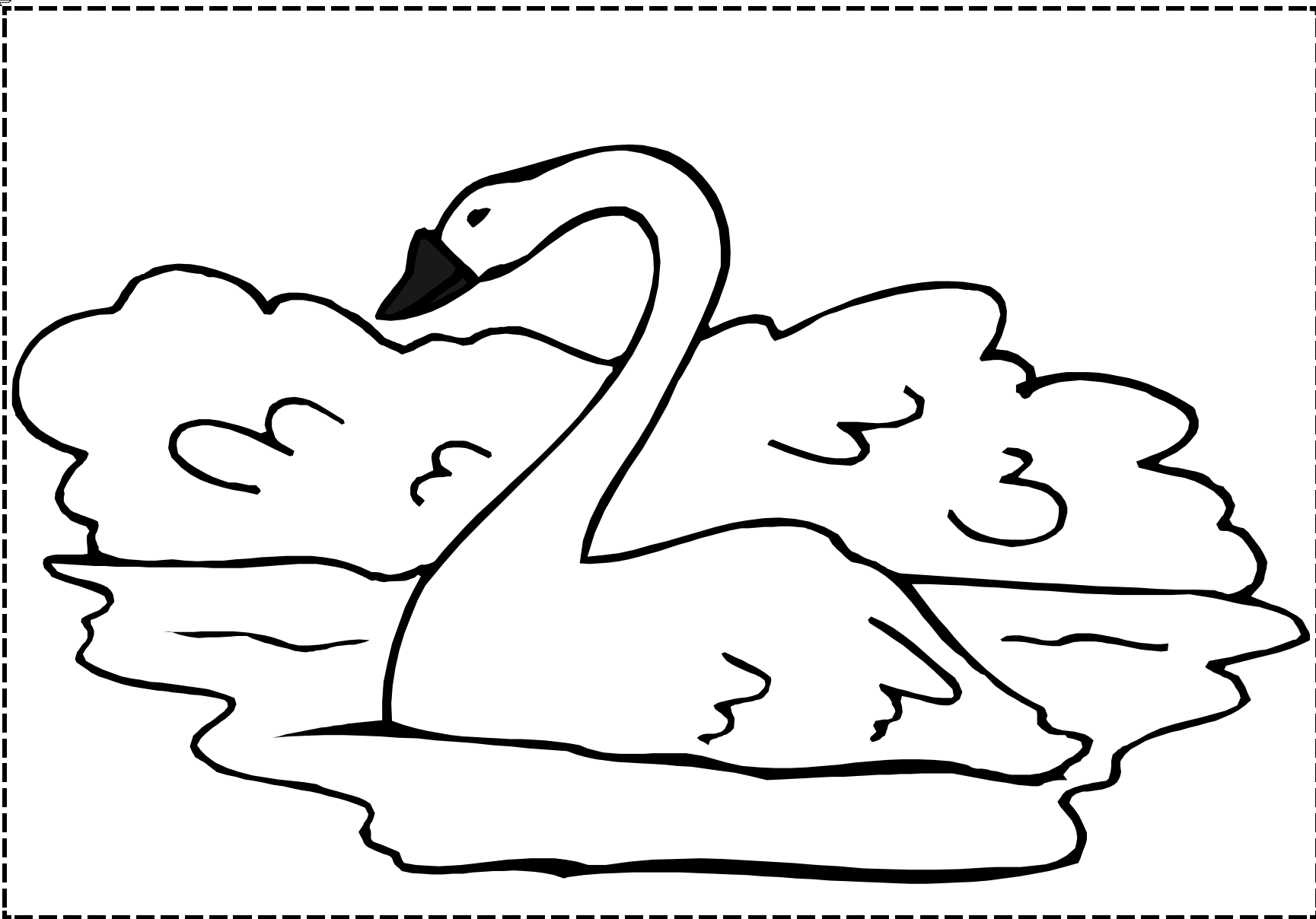
Love, Mom & Autumn

Poem reprinted to make correction from last issue

Have something cool to share with other kids in the Tribe?

Send your submissions in (drawings, poetry, or short stories) and you might see them in a future issue of Currents. Your project will be returned to you by regular mail so go ahead and send your best work in for everyone to see!

Kids, you know what to do! Color the picture below and send it in for this month's coloring contest. Monthly coloring contest is open to Tribal members and descendants from birth to 12 years old. If your picture is picked from the entry box you'll win a new set of colored pencils! Please include: Child's name, child's age, Tribal I.D. or Parent/Guardian Tribal I.D. and return mailing address. Do your best, Megwetch & Good Luck!





Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant
www.anishinaabemowin.org
Pheasant9@aol.com
231-933-4406 or 231-392-6421

May 2004 Language Lesson

Verbs on cooking

	I (past)	You (present)	He/she (future)
To cook	Niin ngiijiibaakwe	Giin Gjiibaakwe	Wiin wijiibaakwe
To bake	Niin ngiigibojiizige	Giin gdogibojiizige	Wiin wiigibojiizige
To boil	Niin ngiibaagimizekwe	Giin gdoagaagimizekwe	Wiin wiibaagimizekwe
To heat	Niin ngiizekwe	Giin gdozekwe	Wiin wiizekwe
To smoke	Niin ngiwiishkisige	Giin gdowiishkisige	Wiin wiwiishkisige

Match the words

Mnookmi	Woman
Ziwaagimide	Hand
Emkwaan	Sun
Chipzowin	Spring
Wiiyaas	Meat
Ninj	Thirteen
Giizis	Syrup
Kwe	My daughter
Ndaanis	Spoon
Mdaaswe shaa nswi	Belt

Answers from last month

Waabinong	East
Goon	Snow
Dabagiiswaan	Clock
Miiknot	Pants
Mshiimin	Apple
Tog	Ear
Noodin	It is windy
Binojiinhs	A baby
Noos	My father
Niwin	Four

June 2004 Language Lesson

Verbs

	I (past)	You (present)	He/she (future)
To bite	Niin ngiitkwaanjige	Giin gdotkwaanjige	Wiin wiitkwaanjige
To bite off	Niin ngiipkwenjige	Giin gdopkwenjige	Wiin wiipkwenjige
To chew	Niin ngiizhaashaangjige	Giin gdozhaashaangjige	Wiin wiizhaashaangjige
To blow	Niin ngiiboodaajige	Giin gdooodaajige	Wiin wiiboodaajige
To brush hair	Niin ngiinisikwew	Giin gdonisikwew	Wiin wiinisikwewaa

Match the words

Mnagiizhgat	Pipes
Niibiishan	Boy
Naagan	Water
Midaasan	It is a good day
Shkiishikoon	Grandchildren
Mishiiminak	Leaves
Pawaganak	Eyes
Ooshenhak	Plate
Gwiizenhs	Apples
Nibiish	Socks

Answers from last month

Mnookmi	Spring
Ziwaagimide	Syrup
Emkwaan	Spoon
Chipzowin	Belt
Wiiyaas	Meat
Ninj	Hand
Giizis	Sun
Kwe	Woman
Ndaanis	My daughter
Mdaaswe shaa nswi	Thirteen

Anishinaabe
Language Hotline
1-877-789-0993

People & professions
Press 1

More weather terms
Press 2

More household terms
Press 3

More foods & liquids
Press 4

Time
Press 5

Body parts
Press 6

Clothing
Press 7

My family members
Press 8

Your family members
Press 9

His/her family members
Press 10

Numbers (10-90)
Press 11

Commands
Press 12

To leave info for lan-
guage CD Rom dial the
language hotline and
press 13

Congratulations
to Angela Carter
for winning the
Currents
Coloring Contest
for March/April.

Next month look
for a drawing
contest. The
topic will be
something about
our Tribe,
Reservation
or Native
Americans.

Way to go
Angela, your
Colored Pencils
are on the
way to you!



Gdoshkwaanagana Reservation

Part 1 of 4 – Reservation History Series

Introduction

This article is the first of four articles to be published in Little River Currents describing the history of our Tribe's Reservation land. As most of you know, the Little River Ottawa descend from members of certain Grand River Ottawa Bands who lived in villages located on the Manistee River, Pere Marquette River, and at several villages on the Grand River. As a result of historic circumstances, only that portion of the Grand River Ottawa people now known as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, had its status as a federally recognized Indian Tribe reaffirmed and restored by the United States in 1994. Other Grand River Ottawa people continue to pursue reaffirmation of their Tribal status with the federal government.

Our ancestors signed four treaties with the United States that recognized our original territories and our status as a sovereign nation. Two of those treaties, the 1836 Treaty of Washington and the 1855 Treaty of Detroit, created land reservations, which continue to be under the jurisdiction of our Tribe as indicated in Article I of our Tribal Constitution.

The Tribal Council just completed a two year effort to conduct historical research to document the entire history of our 1836 and 1855 Reservations. The oral history passed down to us by our ancestors described how our people were deprived of the Reservations we were promised by Treaty and how most of our Reservation lands were stolen or lost to us by fraud and other illegal means. The Tribal Council had decided that it needed to discover and understand the history of our Reservations if they were to make decisions that about the future of our Reservations.

The historical research that is nearing completion has verified the stories and oral history we have heard from our Elders. This series of articles will summarize what we have learned about our history and, more specifically, the history of our lands. You will learn that over 90% of the Reservation land we were promised was lost - much of it through theft and fraud - very shortly after our Reservations were established. Most of the remaining 10% was lost before 1900.

By that time, in large part because we had lost most of our land, the federal government stopped recognizing our existence as a Tribal government. During this time, the United States knew that our ancestors' lands were being taken from them. Federal officials took a number of actions, which they claimed were intended to protect our ancestors' lands. Many of the actions they took only helped non-Indians claim our land. All of their actions failed to protect our people.

Leaders from our communities attempted to defend our people's right to live on our Reservations throughout the nineteenth century. They fought for their people and their land under the worst kinds of conditions. Environmental destruction from illegal logging, disease, poverty, and political corruption were rampant. Despite these overwhelming obstacles, our people (including many Elders we know, or have known - Ruth (Koon) Dean, Jonnie Sam, Robert Battice, Steven Medacco, Enos Pego, Ike Peters, Cornelius Bailey and others) continued to live on and fight for our people's right to our Reservations from 1836 to the present.

Over the last 100 years, each generation of our Tribe has continued to work toward a solution to the problems resulting from the loss of the lands within our Reservations. The current Tribal Council, with your support, has continued this

work by completing the reconstruction of the history of our Reservations.

We will now be discussing the future of our Reservations at our Spring and Fall Membership Meetings in April and September. We are sponsoring 6 regional workshops that will share more deeply our Reservation history and give a broad spectrum of Tribal members a chance to provide us valuable comments as we continue the work of our ancestors. These workshops will take place between late-April and August. (See the Regional Workshop Announcement in Little River Currents)

Part I: The 1836 Manistee Reservation Era (1821-1836)

The Michigan Territory

Ottawa/Odawa people, including our Grand River ancestors, traditionally used lands throughout what is now the Lower and Upper Peninsulas of Michigan for hunting, cultivating and gathering. When United States citizens entered this territory, the Ottawa/Odawa people continued using the same travel routes, lands and resources along the west and north shore of Lake Michigan and the north shore of Lake Huron as they had for more than 150 years. Fur trading played an important role in Ottawa/Odawa economies between 1615 and 1850. Ottawa/Odawa communities were often located at important way-points for trade.



Speaker Steve Parsons gives a verbal history of the Tribe at a Reservation Workshop in Watersmeet, Michigan.

The 1820s and 1830s were years of great change for Ottawa/Odawa communities. Fur trade hunting practices had depleted most animal species. The American Fur Company which bought furs that Ottawa hunters and trappers collected, was a major economic and political power in the Michigan Territory. The Company was losing money. Company owners and operatives wanted Ottawa leaders to sell their lands to pay off debts to the Company.

At the same time, large numbers of settlers began to arrive in the Michigan Territory from the East. So many came to Michigan, that Michigan Territory soon had a population large enough to qualify for statehood. Territorial leaders wanted the Ottawa/Odawa to give up their claims to Michigan land so that they could assume government of the new state free of Indian claims.

Land speculators pressed the Ottawa/Odawa and other Tribal communities to sell their lands. They, along with missionaries, territorial officials and federal agents wanted the Ottawas/Odawas to sell their Michigan lands, clearing the way for lumbering, settlement, and statehood. The combined pressures exerted by territorial officials, settlers, speculators, and the political/economic clout of the American Fur Company finally prompted the federal government to seek cessions (sales) of lands from the Ottawa/Potawatomi/Chippewa bands in the Michigan Territory.

In addition to the political changes around them, the 1820s and 1830s were some of the most difficult years for Ottawa/Odawa communities for other reasons. Settlers brought small pox which ravaged Ottawa communities. For the Ottawa/Odawa, food was becoming more scarce. Many of the wild plants, animals and fish they relied on for food and cash were becoming scarce.

Despite intense political pressures and difficult obstacles, Ottawa/Odawa leaders always insisted on protecting their people's homeland in Michigan - both by reserving lands and reserving access to natural resources.

Losing Ground - The 1821 Treaty of Chicago

As early as 1820, Territorial Governor Lewis Cass wanted the Ottawas/Odawas to sell all of their land within the area that is now the State of Michigan. Federal officials asked Potawatomi and Grand River Ottawa leaders to go to Chicago to negotiate a Treaty to cede lands south of the Grand River. The majority of Ottawa/Odawa refused to participate in these negotiations. Only the leader Kewaycooshkum and his followers attended the negotiations. The Ottawa/Odawa granted this leader no authority to sell any portion of the Ottawa’s territory.

Most signatories to the 1821 Treaty of Chicago were Potawatomis. Kewaycooshkum was the only Ottawa/Odawa leader who signed the document which sold (ceded) all of the Grand River Bands’ territory south of the Grand River. Other Grand River Ottawa leaders refused to recognize the Treaty of Chicago as a valid agreement. That position, however, has never been accepted by federal officials. Grand River Ottawas were so upset with Kewaycooshkum’s conduct that he was killed to set an example for any future chiefs who might be faced with a similar situation.

Following ratification of the 1821 Treaty of Chicago, federal and state officials quickly surveyed and sold the lands ceded by that treaty to non-Indians. Settlers quickly occupied those lands, in some cases, moving into Ottawa/Odawa houses and taking over gardens.

The Threat of Removal - The 1836 Treaty of Washington

In 1834, as territorial and federal officials, settlers and the American Fur Company increased the pressure on the Ottawa/Odawa to sell more of their land, Grand River Ottawa leaders met with Little Traverse Ottawas in a solemn council to discuss whether or not to sell all of their remaining Michigan land. Michiganians increasingly called on the federal government for removal of the Ottawa from Michigan to new reservations in the territories west of the Mississippi. Ottawa/Odawa fears that they and their families might be physically forced to move west were not over-exaggerated. President Andrew Jackson had already rounded up Tribes in the southeastern United States (Cherokee, Seminole, Creek, Choctaw and Chickasaw) and forced them to walk to Oklahoma Territory on the “Trail of Tears”.

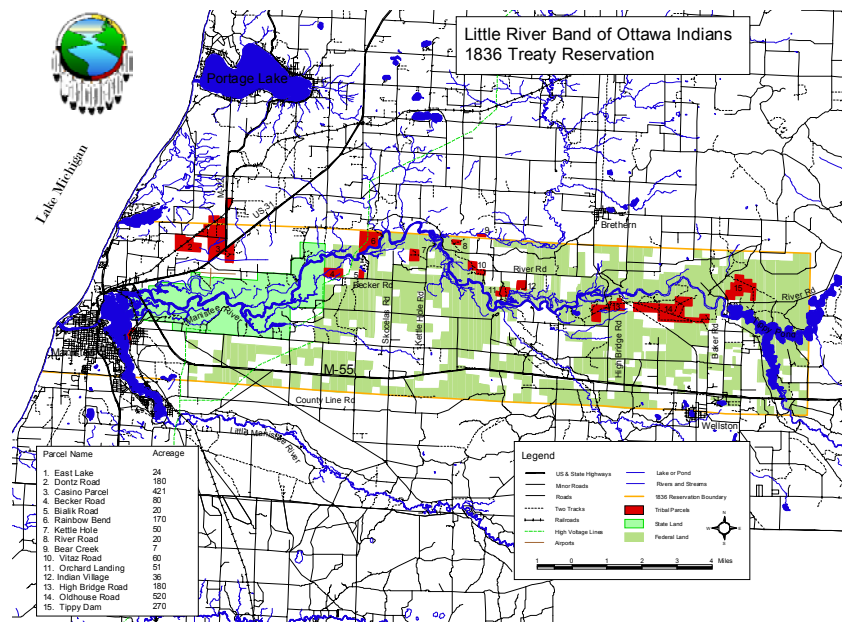
Ottawa leaders steadfastly refused to leave their traditional Michigan lands. Leaders from the Grand River Ottawa, including ancestors of present day Little River Ottawa, determined that they would not sell any of their lands to the United States. These leaders sent a strongly worded petition to President Andrew Jackson refusing to sell the graves of the fathers.

Former Michigan Territorial Governor, Lewis Cass, who was now the Secretary of War, and Michigan Indian Agent Henry Schoolcraft refused to accept the Ottawa leaders’ position. Ottawa leaders were escorted from their homes in Michigan to Washington, D.C, to negotiate a new treaty. Cass and Schoolcraft wanted these negotiations to take place in Washington, D.C. to put more pressure on Ottawa/Odawa leaders to get the cessions of land they wanted. That strategy worked.

Faced with the prospect of the threat of removal to lands west of the Mississippi, and away from their support of their families and Band members, the Chiefs and Headmen of the various Ottawa/Odawa communities negotiated the best deal they could under the circumstances. Only after unrelenting pressure from federal negotiators, and upon self-serving advice from American Fur Company representatives, Ottawa and Chippewa Chiefs reluctantly agreed to sell most of their Michigan lands to the United States. In exchange, the Ottawa/Chippewa leaders re-

tained (or “reserved”) a portion of their traditional territories as land Reservations.

Ottawa/Chippewa leaders also reserved, in Article 13 of that treaty, the right to continue to use the lands they had



Map of 1836 Treaty Cession and Reservations, currently owned Tribal properties in red.

sold to the United States for “hunting and the other usual privileges of occupancy” until those lands were “required for settlement”. The continuation of this reservation of rights by your previous leaders - the treaty right to hunt, fish, trap and gather on the lands that were sold - are currently being defended by Tribal leaders and attorneys in a lawsuit brought by the State of Michigan in federal court.

Ottawa leaders thought they had negotiated the best arrangement they could - one that allowed their people to remain on a portion of their traditional lands. Unfortunately, upon returning to their villages, Ottawa leaders learned that members of the United States Senate had amended the 1836 Treaty to limit their right to remain on the lands they had reserved for their people. The Senate had proposed to limit the Ottawa’s right to remain on their Reservations to only five years unless the United States allowed them to remain beyond that time.

Ottawa leaders were strongly opposed to the change the Senate proposed to the 1836 Treaty. Only after Agent Schoolcraft assured them that the move west of the Mississippi was voluntary and that right of hunting and fishing guaranteed to them Article 13 would not go away did the Ottawa leaders agree to this amendment.

Continued Next Page



Our antler is traveling among the membership. At each Reservation Workshop the Ogema shares the development story of the carvings in the antler and it is then passed from the Ogema, to the Speaker and then member to member as they introduce themselves and share their family history and hometown if they desire. In this photo it’s on display in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the April 24, 2004 workshop.

Part 1 of 4 – Reservation History Series continued

Uncertain Tenure on their Reservations

The United States expected Grand River Ottawas from Pere Marquette, Muskegon and other southern river communities to move to the 70,000 acre Manistee Reservation despite the fact that they were not guaranteed the right to remain on that Reservation for more than five years. The federal government sent surveyors to mark the boundaries of the Reservation. They built blacksmith shops and other improvements to assist the Grand River Ottawa families who were expected to move to the Reservation to join their relatives already living in the Manistee area.

However, because the treaty left the future of the Manistee Reservation, and the people’s right to remain living there, in an uncertain situation, very few of the Grand River Ottawa agreed to leave their homeland and traditional gardens to move north to “temporary homes” on the Manistee Reservation.

During this time, land speculators and lumber companies continued to press federal officials to remove Ottawa people entirely from the State of Michigan. The effect of the amendment to the 1836 Treaty inserted by the Senate was to make Ottawa people “tenants” on their own homelands. They could live on their own lands only until the United States told them to leave. In fact, efforts to survey the boundaries of the Manistee Reservation were pushed primarily to prevent lumber companies and other trespassers

from removing the timber from the Reservation before it was properly surveyed.

Most Grand River Ottawa people recognized the fragile tenure of the Manistee Reservation and began to buy land at or near their traditional, summer village homes near Muskegon, Grand Haven and Grand Rapids. They did so while state and federal officials continued to threaten to remove all of the Ottawa to the west.

While Ottawa leaders continued to lobby federal officials to end the threat of removal, lumber companies were lobbying federal officials to get access to the timber resources on the few lands remaining under Ottawa control. In 1848, after meeting with a Michigan Congressman close to lumber interests, President James Polk signed an executive order opening the Manistee Reservation for sale. Most of the lands in the Manistee Reservation were quickly purchased by lumber companies or persons acting on their behalf.

The opening of the Manistee Reservation lands to sale left the Grand River Ottawa even more vulnerable. Although the United States continued to acknowledge that they had permitted the Ottawa to remain on their Reservations beyond the five year time period, the Ottawa were under the constant threat of removal. Accordingly, Grand River Ottawa leaders, along with other Ottawa/Chippewa leaders pressed the federal government to negotiate a new treaty that would guarantee them permanent Reservations and permanent homes in their traditional territories in Michigan.

**Next Issue - Part 2 of 4
Reservation History Series
The 1855 Reservation Era – (1855 – 1870)**



Over 40 people attended the first Reservation Workshop held in Watersmeet, MI (photos on left side). There were almost that many in the second Workshop held in Milwaukee, WI (photos on right side). We'd like to gather the names of all the people in these pictures for the Tribe's historical records so if you can match the names to the faces, please contact Little River Currents.



American Indians prove a powerful force for protecting Michigan's natural resources

Paul Revere, an American patriot and craftsman, made an April midnight ride 229 years ago to warn Massachusetts colonists of the approaching threat of British troops. Now rides forth a Paul Revere of the Great Lakes — an environmental patriot and craftsman sounding alarms about 21st century threats to our majestic ecosystem (a word not in play in Revere's day.).

Revere captured 1770s battles on copper engravings. Dave Dempsey chronicles current battles with skillfully crafted books that draw on the past for lessons to be heeded by today's politicians.

In 2001, it was "Ruin & Recovery: Michigan's Rise as a Conservation Leader" published by the University of Michigan Press and highlighted among notable books during Michigan Week. Dempsey, policy adviser for the Michigan Environmental Council, is just out with "On the Brink: The Great Lakes in the 21st Century," published by Michigan State University Press.

It made timely Earth Day reading last week as Gov. Jennifer Granholm and the Legislature trumpeted Great Lakes issues, and President George W. Bush and presumptive Democratic challenger John Kerry staged environmental media events. One good news aspect of Dempsey's book is especially timely and has been reflected in developments since his book was written:

Aboriginal peoples with an ancestral home in the region — known as First Nations in Canada and Native Americans (or American Indians) in the United States — increasingly are applying their unique legal leverage as sovereigns to help protect the lakes. Dempsey notes, "They possess both a legal and a moral authority that will prove indispensable to the defense of the lakes."

The U.S. Constitution and treaties give tribes clout in the courts, and their savvy is giving them a seat at political tables. Some developments:

On Friday, five tribes met at the Bay Mills Chippewa Indian Community in the Upper Peninsula to coordinate implementation of federal court orders on tribal fishing. They do this

periodically.

But some of those who were there also are involved in discussions about forming a coalition of tribes and environmental groups to forge united fronts on some Great Lakes and other resource issues.

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, citing lax state and federal standards that would allow pollutants that would jeopardize its fishery in a 60-mile radius, was a strong voice in the recent successful effort to block building of a coal-fueled power plant in Manistee. The tribe will have legal standing if there's a court challenge.

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, which years ago cited threats to its fishery in blocking a 12-acre manmade and related development in Leelanau County, opposed the 2003 land swap on South Fox Island that was approved by the Department of Natural Resources. However, some of the restrictions it advocated were part of the deal.

George Bennett, former Grand Traverse Band tribal chairman and now on its ruling council, is a leader of efforts to have Midwest tribes unite on environmental issues and serves on a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency advisory committee.

Those two tribes, along with the Little Traverse Bands of Odawa Indians, joined in an unsuccessful court effort to block Nestle's Ice Mountain water-bottling plant in Mecosta County on grounds that it constituted diversion of Great Lakes water and violation of their treaty rights.

A separate court action against the plant, in which they did not participate, was successful but is under appeal.

William Rastetter, an attorney for the Grand Traverse Band, says the tribes have "a strong hammer" in the federal courts and will use it. Says author Dempsey: "These powers could be decisive to the future of the Great Lakes."

George Weeks is The News' politics columnist. His columns appear Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday in the Opinions section. You can contact him at (517) 371-3660, 335 N. Seymour, Lansing, MI 48933 or gweeks07@aol.com. Sunday, April 25, 2004 By George Weeks / The Detroit News

Controversial law gets Indian-specific: No Child Left Behind tweaked to accommodate Native cultures

In what supporters are calling a "great day", President Bush on Friday signed an Executive Order on American Indian and Alaska Native Education. The order seeks to reconcile the "challenging academic standards of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in a manner that is consistent with Tribal traditions, languages and cultures." The order "builds on the innovations, reforms and high standards of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, including: stronger accountability for results; greater flexibility in the use of federal funds; more choices for parents; and an emphasis on research-based instruction that works with respect to American Indian and Alaska Native students."

"We will continue the federal government's long-standing commitment to the sovereignty of American Indians and Alaska Natives. And we will continue our government-to-government cooperation as we

work to meet this very vital goal," Bush said to applause at the signing ceremony.

The Washington DC-based National Indian Education Association worked with Education Secretary Rod Paige on the Executive Order.

"This honors the government-to-government relationship," NIEA President Cindy La Marr told the Native American Times. "It looks at cultural standards and how the act affects children. It takes into account languages, cultures and traditions and it undertakes studies to look at why Indian children fail in schools."

LaMarr said an Interagency Working Group on American Indian and Alaska Native Education has been established to implement the order. Officials will develop a plan that recommends initiatives, strategies and ideas to develop an agenda for a multi-year study, with the overall goal of improving the ability of Native students to meet the academic standards of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Bush signed No Child Left Behind on January 8, 2002. It provides nearly \$1 bil-

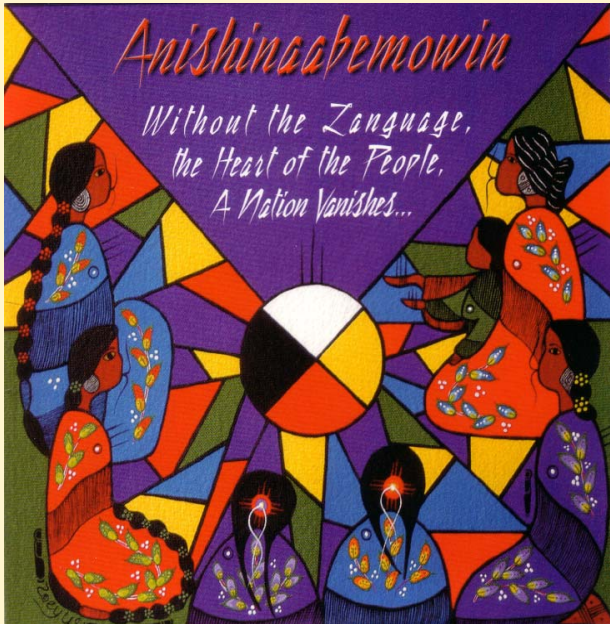
lion a year over the next five years to strengthen public schools using a combination of new requirements, new incentives and new resources. Some of the requirements are in the short term while others may take years to implement. Critics say the law places too much emphasis on reading and math scores and uses untested approaches to education. Under the law, students are required to take yearly exams to ensure they meet the basic requirements for grade level.

"The early focus on labeling schools as failures when combined with parental choice provisions represents an assault on public education, allowing virtual elementary schools, faith-based tutoring and other untested charter alternatives to creep into public systems with public tax money," states NoChildLeft.com, a website opposed to the law.

"The law has good intentions," La Marr said. "The Executive Order sets up a process to address the needs of Indian students. It's a start."

*www.nativeamericantimes.com
WASHINGTON DC
Sam Lewin 5/3/2004*

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****EACH LRBOI HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD
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**The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Welcomes
you to the 11th Annual Anishinaabe Family
Language & Culture Camp**

***Celebrating the unity of what our Language & Culture brings us
Bring your Community Flags & Gift for Giveaway***

No Registration fee

Meals are provided

***Aanii piish
Manistee Mi***

***Wenesh pii
July 30, 31& August 1***

Friday July 30

8:00 Opening & Breakfast
9:15 Presentations / workshops
10:45 Presentations / workshops
12:00 Lunch
1:15 Presentations / workshops
2:45 Presentations / workshops
4:15 Free time
5:00 Dinner
7:00 Talent show
9:00 Entertainment

Saturday July 31

8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Presentations / workshops
10:45 Presentations / workshops
12:00 Lunch
1:15 Presentations / workshops
2:45 Presentations / workshops
4:15 Free time
5:00 Dinner
7:00 Jiingtamok / pow wow
9:30 Movie

Sunday August 1

8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Presentations / workshops
10:45 Presentations / workshops
12:00 Lunch & Giveaway

These presentations and workshops are for all ages and both Anishinaabemowin and English will be used. First come first serve for the camping area. This gathering will take place at the pow wow grounds in Manistee Mi. located at the corner of M 22 and US 31 S across from the Casino. There are showers on site. If you wish to book a room you have to do it early. This is a 11 year anniversary of this gathering and we would like everyone to bring their flags from each community and we would like to display the flags on the camp grounds the whole weekend to show unity and support for the language and culture. Also we encourage each family to bring a gift for the giveaway.

Sponsored by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians of the Anishinaabe Nation. For more information please call Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant at 231-933-4406, 231-690-3508 or 231-398-9378 ext 27. Email pheasant9@aol.com, website: www.anishinaabemowin.org

The MIGIZI BUSINESS CAMP will be held **June 24th - 30th 2004**. The Education Department will be sending out applications to all Tribal students ages 12 to 18. During this week-long camp students will learn the fundamentals of small business start-up and entrepreneurship. Students will **create their own small business plans** and present them to a panel of local business people who will judge the plans on viability, creativity and accuracy of financial plans. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to **call Bridget or Yvonne at 231-723-8288**.

Watershed Initiative Meeting

**June 1, 2004 7:00 PM
Little River Casino Resort
Three Fires Conference Center
Manistee, Michigan**

The Tribe recently received EPA Watershed Initiative funding. This holistic watershed approach will fund restoration activities within the Manistee River watershed. Activities will include repairing failing road-stream crossings, stream bank stabilization projects and access site improvements. Road stream crossings will be designed to accommodate seasonal high flow and a natural substrate. These projects will enhance water quality as well as fish passage. Stream bank stabilization projects will take into account a diverse habitat that allows for the health and sustainability of many populations. Access site improvements will be focused on reducing erosion problems. Monitoring of these projects will allow for informed management decisions regarding this type of restoration in the future.

Please join us for an informational meeting on what we have planned.

Stephanie Ogren & Marty Holtgren
Conservation Department

SECRETARIAL ELECTION RESULTS

PROPOSED AMENDMENT "A" CONSTITUTION OF THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA

Article VI - Tribal Court. Sections 2, 4, and 7 shall be amended to provide for the election of Tribal Judges for the Tribal Court and Court of Appeal. Sections 2, 4, and 7, as amended, shall read as follows:

Section 2. Qualifications

(a) Member of the Tribe. Any member of the Tribe may serve as a Tribal Judge provided he/she is twenty-five (25) years of age or older, is not a member of the Tribal Council or running for a seat on the Tribal Council, and has not been convicted of any crime involving dishonesty, or moral turpitude, nor been convicted of a felony under Federal, Tribal, or State law within the seven (7) year period immediately preceding the date of the election, or, in the event of a vacancy under Article X, Section 4(a), his/her appointment.

(b) Non-Member Qualifications. A non-member of the Tribe may be appointed to or elected to serve as a Tribal judge if such individual possesses a Law degree and has practiced in Federal Indian law or as a tribal judge, and has not been convicted of any crime involving dishonesty, or moral turpitude, nor been convicted of a felony under Federal, Tribal or State law within the seven (7) year period immediately preceding the date of the election, or, in the event of a vacancy under Article X, Section 4(a), his/her appointment.

Section 4. Election and Compensation.

(a) Judges of the Tribal Court, including the Court of Appeals, shall be elected by the registered voters.

1. Current Judges. The current tribal judges as of adoption of these amendments shall identify the following:

A. Tribal Court judges shall determine staggered terms from amongst themselves and new terms shall be set at either two years or four years. Each term thereafter shall be as set forth in Section 5(a).

B. Court of Appeals judges shall determine staggered terms from amongst themselves and new terms shall be set at either two years or four years. Each term thereafter shall be as set forth in Section 5(a).

2. Declaration of Tribal Court or Court of Appeals Candidacy. Candidates shall declare their intention to run for a position on the Tribal Court or the Court of Appeals. Provided that, the Election Board shall identify positions on the Court of Appeals requiring specific qualifications as identified in Section 3(b). Where no candidate, at the conclusion of any deadlines set by the Election Board, declares for a position on the Court of Appeals requiring specific qualifications, the Tribal Ogema shall appoint, and the Tribal Council shall approve a judge for that vacancy.

(e) Compensation. The Tribal Council shall have the power to establish the level of compensation for each judge; provided that the compensation due each individual judge shall not be diminished during the term of his/her appointment.

Section 7. Vacancy. A vacancy in any Judicial position resulting from a Judge's death, resignation, removal, or recall shall be filled in the manner as set forth in Article X, Section 4. The term of office for any Tribal Judge elected or appointed under this Section shall be for the remainder of the vacant term.

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

Pursuant to an order issued by Larry Morrin, Midwest Regional Director, on October 27, 2003, this **Proposed Amendment "A"** was submitted to the qualified voters of the Littler River Band of Ottawa on April 26, 2004, and was duly adopted by a vote of 379 for, and 92 against, and 5 cast ballots found spoiled or mutilated, in an election in which at least thirty percent (30%) of the 997 entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended.

Signed:

Gerald Parish
Chairman, Election Board
John Ross
David Lilleberg
Kathleen Bowen
Susan Schultz
Members, Election Board
Date: April 26, 2004

PROPOSED AMENDMENT "B" CONSTITUTION OF THE LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA

Article IX - Election. Section 4 shall be amended to provide for the election of the members of the Election Board. Section 4, as amended, shall read as follows:

Section 4. Election Board

(a) The Election Board shall consist of five members to be elected by the registered voters.

1. First Election of Members. The first election shall be conducted by the Election Board currently seated and their terms of office shall be concluded when the newly elected Election Board members are sworn into office.

2. First Election Date. The first election date shall be conducted during the next general election of the Tribe.

3. Staggered Terms. Election Board candidates elected to these positions shall serve as follows:

A. The three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall serve a four-year term of office.

B. The two (2) candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve a two-year term of office, and the term shall thereafter be as set forth in subsection (b).

(d) Tribal members who are holding elected office, or running for elected office, shall not be eligible to serve as an Election Board member.

(h) A vacancy in any Election Board position resulting from death, resignation, removal or recall shall be filled in the manner as set forth in Article X, Section 4.

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

Pursuant to an order issued by Larry Morrin, Midwest Regional Director, on October 27, 2003, this **Proposed Amendment "B"** was submitted to the qualified voters of the Littler River Band of Ottawa on April 26, 2004, and was duly adopted by a vote of 375 for, and 94 against, and 7 cast ballots found spoiled or mutilated, in an election in which at least thirty percent (30%) of the 997 entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended.

Signed:

Gerald Parish
Chairman, Election Board
John Ross
David Lilleberg
Kathleen Bowen
Susan Schultz
Members, Election Board
Date: April 26, 2004

PROPOSED AMENDMENT "C" CONSTITUTION OF THE LITTER RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA

Article X - Resignation, Recall , or Removal of Elected Officials. Section 2 shall be amended to provide for the recall of Tribal Judges for the Tribal Court and the Court of Appeal and Section 4 shall be amended to provide for the filling of vacancies. Section 2 and Section 4, as amended, shall read as follows:

Section 2. Recall. The registered voters of the Tribe shall have the right to recall the Tribal Ogema, any member of the Tribal Council, or a Tribal Judge or Appellate Judge by filing a recall petition with the Election Board. The petition must be signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the registered voters of the Tribe. The Election Board shall verify and approve/deny the petition within thirty (30) days of receipt. At least fifty percent (50%) of the verified signatures on the petition must be registered voters who are eligible to vote in the election of the Tribal Council member now subject to recall.

The Election Board shall conduct a recall election within ninety (90) days of the Election Board's verification and approval of the petition and its signatures. If the term of office for the Tribal Ogema or Tribal Council member being recalled will end within six (6) months of the date the Election Board verifies and approves the recall petition the issue will be held until the next regularly scheduled session.

Section 4. Vacancies. A vacancy in the office of an elected official resulting from death, resignation, forfeiture, removal, or recall shall be filled as follows:

a) If less than eighteen (18) months remain in the term of office of an elected official, an individual shall be appointed to fill such vacant position at the next regular Tribal Council meeting, provided such appointment is approved by a majority vote of the Tribal Council. The Speaker of the Tribal Council shall nominate an individual to fill the vacancy in the Office of the Tribal Ogema. The Tribal Ogema shall appoint an individual to fill any other vacancy of an elected official.

b) If more than eighteen months remain in the term of office of an elected official, a special election shall be held within three (3) months after the vacancy occurs. When calling a special election to fill the vacancy of a Tribal Council member, the qualifications for candidates and registered voters entitled to participate shall be consistent with those applicable to the District in which such vacant seat exists and in regards to any other office the individual must meet the qualifications required in the vacant position.

d) The elected official taking office under the provisions of this Section shall only serve until the term of office for the vacant office he/she is filling expires.

A vacancy occurring in the position of Speaker or Recorder of the Tribal Council shall be filled by a majority vote of the Tribal Council.

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

Pursuant to an order issued by Larry Morrin, Midwest Regional Director, on October 27, 2003, this **Proposed Amendment "C"** was submitted to the qualified voters of the Littler River Band of Ottawa on April 26, 2004, and was duly adopted by a vote of 378 for, and 90 against, and 8 cast ballots found spoiled or mutilated, in an election in which at least thirty percent (30%) of the 997 entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended.

Signed:


Gerald Parish
Chairman, Election Board
John Ross
David Lilleberg
Kathleen Bowen
Susan Schultz
Members, Election Board
Date: April 26, 2004

90-Day Calendar & Contact Information

July 3 & 4, 2004

LRBOI 10th Annual Jiingtamok Pow Wow

Grand Entry: Saturday 1pm & 7pm
Sunday 1pm



SPECIAL EVENT:
Fourth of July Sunday Morning River Float Trip

Bring your canoe, kayak or tube and float the Manistee River. For more details and departure location please contact Melissa Zelenak

June 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	3 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	4	5
6	7 EN 5:30p	8 CP 5:15p AL 5:30p	9 TC 10:00a	10 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p	11	12
13	14 BI 10:00a	15 AL 5:30p	16 TC 10:00a	17 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	18	19 TC 10:00a
20	21 EN 5:30p	22 CP 5:15p AL 5:30p	23 TC 10:00a	24 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	25	26 Reservation Workshop
27	28	29 AL 5:30p	30 TC 10:00a			#3-Grand Rapids, MI

Meeting Schedule & Calendar Abbreviations	
AL	Anishinaabemowin Language Class Every Thursday 12:20 pm - 1:20 pm Saplings Room @ Casino Every Tuesday 5:30pm-7:00pm Advanced Language Class @ Training Ctr.
EN	Enrollment Commission Meeting: LRBOI Administrative Building Every first and third Monday of the month at 5:30 pm
CP	Cultural Preservation Committee Meeting: Bank Building, Dome Room 3rd Floor Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:15 pm
ED	Education Committee Meeting: LRBOI Administrative Building Every 2nd Thursday at 5:30 pm
EL	Elders Meeting: LRBOI Community Center First Saturday of the month 12:00 pm

Please note that meeting information is subject to change without prior notification. You should always call ahead to verify meeting schedules and agendas if you plan to attend.

DIRECT CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS		LRBOI TOLL-FREE 1-888-723-8288		ADDRESSES	
Ogema’s Office	1-231-398-6823	Training & Development	1-231-398-9372	Administration Building	Natural Resources
Tribal Council	1-231-398-6845	Wastewater & Utilities	1-231-723-2309	1762 US 31 South	159 Brickyard Road
• Elaine Porter	1-231-398-6833	Warrior’s Society	1-231-398-6720	Manistee, MI 49660	Manistee, MI 49660
• Pat Ruiter	1-231-398-6831	Bedabin Receptionist	1-231-398-6604	Just South of K-Mart Plaza	Big Blue off M-55
• Pamela Medahko	1-231-398-6849	Elder’s Coordinator	1-231-398-6709		
• Steve Parsons	1-231-398-6830	Enrollment Officer	1-231-398-6712	Health Clinic	Tribal Court
• Brian Medacco	1-231-398-6828	Commodities Department	1-231-398-6715	310 9th Street	3031 Domres Road
• Janine Sam	1-231-398-6834	Currents News	1-231-398-6872	Manistee, MI 49660	Manistee, MI 49660
• Tammy Kleeman	1-231-398-6835	Natural Resources	1-231-723-1594	Above Child Care Center	In Newland Bldg
• Israel Stone	1-231-398-6807	Little River Casino Resort	1-231-398-6833		
• Lisa McCatty	1-231-398-6719	Toll-Free	1-888-568-2244	Little River Casino Resort	Government Offices
Health Clinic	1-231-723-8299	Maintenance Department	1-231-723-7733	2700 Orchard Highway	375 River Street
Toll-Free	1-888-382-8299	Housing Department	1-231-398-6734	Manistee, MI 49660	Manistee, MI 49660
Job Hotline	1-866-556-5660	Member’s Assistance	1-231-398-6864	Corner of M-22 & US-31	In National Bank Bldg
Language Hotline	1-877-789-0993	Public Safety, Administrative	1-231-398-3413		
Tribal Court	1-231-398-3406	Public Safety, Non-Emergency		Community Center	Public Safety
		Tribal Officer Response	1-231-723-6241	1762 US 31 South	3031 Domres Road
				Manistee, MI 49660	Manistee, MI 49660
				Just South of K-Mart Plaza	In Newland Bldg

In Touch

From Melissa Zelenak

It's been a pretty busy last couple of months with everyone getting ready for the Spring Membership Meeting. Now that it's over we're preparing for the next big event, the July 3rd & 4th Pow Wow held at our Gathering Grounds across from the Casino. This event is always a wonderful time for families and friends to gather and also gives an opportunity for the kids to watch their Elders during dance and drum competitions. There's good food and loads of native crafts so be sure to mark the date on your calendar so you can attend.

Another event to consider attending are the regular meetings held by the Tribal Council on Wednesday at 10:00am in the Dome Room. After one meeting I left feeling sure that Elder LaVern Oren should run for President. With her down to earth experience she could probably help us all get our heads together!

And did you hear the latest...

Not sure what the latest is because there's so much of "it" going around?

Remember the words of our Grandparents, "to each their own", "consider the source" and "what goes around, comes around". There are a lot of other great sayings that could help people be nicer to each other but for now if we could remember the words of Elder LaVern, "we're supposed to be helping each other, not tearing each other down", I believe we'll all be better people, raising better kids.

Attention Little River Ladies: The menu for the next luncheon, July 5th, 12pm at the Community Center is "Casseroles", but Angie, you can bring your Fluffy Stuff! We'll be making the final plans for our "Overnight Camp Out" so please try to make it and we'll chart our course for relaxation, fun and good memories.

CLOSING THOUGHT

"Our greatest glory consists not in never falling... but in rising every time we fall." - Ralph Waldo Emerson



At the Capitol in Lansing



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Send your \$25 check or money order made payable to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Little River Currents
375 River Street
Manistee, Michigan 49660

Tribal members send just \$15.00 Include Tribal identification number on the back of your business card and on check or money order.

Little River Currents is published monthly by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Currents welcomes all Letters to the Editor and other Tribal member submissions but does not guarantee placement nor do published submissions necessarily reflect the views of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Submission Guidelines: Artwork, photos, and poetry will be sent back to you if you send it with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return it in. Please include your full name, Tribal identification number and current mailing address with all submissions. If submissions are sent on behalf of a child who is a descendent of a Tribal member, please include the parent or guardian Tribal identification number. If sending photos or artwork please include a description of the subject as well.

SUBMISSIONS and DEDICATIONS must be received 30 days in advance of publication.

Currents is distributed free to all LRBOI Tribal citizens by mail and to Tribal employees at select locations. Subscriptions are available at a yearly rate of \$17.00. For Elders age 55 or more subscription rates are \$12.00 in the United States. Foreign rates are based on shipping and handling expenses. **Bulk copies of Currents are available to share with others: 10 copies for \$5.00 or 25 copies for \$15.00. Bulk copies are mailed to one address. Please call for pricing on 25 or more copies.**

For assistance please contact the Currents office at currents@lrboi.com or call Melissa Zelenak at 1-231-723-8288.



Little River Currents

Dedications & Announcements

Waabgonii giizis
Blossom Moon
June 2004 Vol. 1 / Issue 5

Notice of Vacancy: Housing Commission

The Housing Commission has two vacancies and is currently seeking applicants. Members must be able to meet weekly at the Tribal Offices. Background and experience in housing issues is a plus. If you have an interest in serving on the Housing Commission, please submit a letter of interest to:

The Office of the Ogema
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660

Happy Birthday

Jessie, James, Jasmine
& Jacquelyn.

One Year Old on June 21
*Love Mom, Dad, Joselyn,
Jalissa and Jacob*

JAMES LYRENMANN
HAPPY 22ND BIRTHDAY
MAY 3RD
LOVE MOM

HAPPY 6TH BIRTHDAY BROTHER
(BLAQUE CLYNE) ON MAY 13TH
LOVE SISTER

Happy Sweet 16
NICKOLAS BERENSEN
MAY 26, 2004
FROM MOM, DAD, JACOB
AND THOMAS

Happy Birthday
"Aunt Kimmy" Alexander!
Wow!!! You are really old at 39!!!!
Love, Heather & Logan

Happy Anniversary
Becky & Phillip Wahr, Sr.
May 15th

Laura Veheek:
*Thinking of you and wishing you well
from your friends and family in Ac-
counting.*

Wanted: volunteers to ride the
Water Wagon and water flowers
downtown Manistee Friday

mornings. Anyone interested in help-
ing please contact Henry Burgman at
(231)723-5712

Congratulations to Joan & Geoff



Burkhart on the
birth of their son,
Nathaniel Robert
on May 7, 2004,
6 lbs. 9oz.,
20 inches long.
Grandpa,
Grandma and
Auntie Valerie are
all so proud and
love you very
much!

June 13, 2004

Happy Anniversary to Lee Sprague &
Janine Sam, married two years.
Congratulations from family and
friends.

Happy Birthday
Patsi Smitham
May 9th
From your cuz

Happy Birthday
Jeremy Blaszczyk
May 26th

Congratulations Christopher DeVerney
on your Associates Degree, graduated
May 7th from Fullsail Real World School
Love, Your Family

Yvonne Theodore
would like to say,
Congratulations to
her daughter and fu-
ture son-in-law
Nicole Ward &
Justin Guenther who
are planning a wed-
ding for May 2005.



Happy 23rd Birthday
Sara DeVerney
Love, your family

Happy Belated Birthday

May 4th to Cornelius DeVerney
From your family, Grandson Issac, and
friends Bev, Vicky Williams, Vikki Rank
and Ralph Redfox from South Dakota

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE TRIBAL EMPLOYEES:

The birthdays for May are:

7th--Mark Dougher
8th--Marcella Leusby
16th--Laura Verheek,
Mark Knee & Jessica
Crawford
19th--Matthew Stratton,
Salli Wabsis
& Jody Powell
25th--Josh Guthrie
26th--Dale Magoon & J
ason Verheek
30th--James Anderson &
Lee Sprague
31st--Mark Szynski &
DeAhna Lewis

The June birthdays are:

6th--Terri Raczkowski &
Timothy LeGault
7th--Yvonne Parsons
8th--June Sam
12th--Frankie Medacco
14th--Chris Karash
16th--Bill Willis & Archie Martell
27th--Robert Clark
29th--Bonnie Harnish
& Rodney Mathews

Happy Belated Birthdays:

- Barbara Kleeman
- Wilbur Collingwood
- Sandra Snyder
- Kyle Cronkite
- Megan Garvin

**Please use the
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Coupon on page 4 for
your dedications,
Megwetch.**

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